

Docket No. AB-164U

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Claims 1 - 12 (previously canceled)

Claim 13 (canceled):

Claims 14-15 (previously canceled)

Claim 16 (currently amended): A method of introducing a brain stimulating lead into a patient's brain comprising:

holding a first cannula in a substantially fixed position completely external to the brain;

slidably supporting a second cannula with the first cannula;

positioning the second cannula with a proximal end extending beyond the proximal end of the first cannula and a distal end extending beyond the distal end of the first cannula and so that the second cannula extends at least partially into the patient's brain;

inserting the brain stimulating lead through the second cannula; [[and]]

using the second cannula as a macroelectrode, wherein the macroelectrode is attached to the second cannula;

using a stereotactic frame to hold the first cannula in a substantially fixed position; and

pulling the second cannula away from the patient's brain, wherein the second cannula includes at least two splittable sections having a perforated interface.

Claim 17 (canceled)

Claim 18 - 22 (previously canceled)

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Claim 23 (new): The method of Claim 16 wherein pulling the second cannula away from the patient's brain further includes, removing at least one splittable section at a time.

Claim 24 (new): A lead introduction system for introducing a stimulation lead into a patient's brain, the system comprising:

- a stereotactic frame;

- a first cannula dimensioned to be larger than a predetermined hole size in the patient's skull to prevent entry into the brain and which first cannula is held in a substantially fixed position by the stereotactic frame; and

- a second cannula slidable within the first cannula and having a proximal end extending beyond the proximal end of the first cannula and a distal end extending beyond the distal end of the first cannula and into the patient's brain,

- wherein the second cannula is dimensioned to permit insertion through the predetermined hole size in the patient's skull;

- wherein the second cannula is supported by the first cannula;

- wherein the stimulation lead is insertable through the second cannula;

- wherein the second cannula includes a perforated interface from the proximal end toward the distal end; and

- wherein the second cannula includes a macroelectrode attached to the second cannula.

Claim 25 (new): The lead introduction system of Claim 24 wherein the second cannula includes at least one handle at the proximal end.

Claim 26 (new): The lead introduction system of Claim 25 wherein the at least one handle is pulled up and away from the patient's brain separating the second cannula along the perforated interface.

Claim 27 (new): A lead introduction system for introducing a stimulation lead into a patient's brain, the system comprising:

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a stereotactic frame;
a first cannula dimensioned to be larger than a predetermined hole size in the patient's skull to prevent entry into the brain and which first cannula is held in a substantially fixed position by the stereotactic frame; and
a second cannula slidable within the first cannula and having a proximal end extending beyond the proximal end of the first cannula and a distal end extending beyond the distal end of the first cannula and into the patient's brain,
wherein the second cannula is dimensioned to permit insertion through the predetermined hole size in the patient's skull;
wherein the second cannula is supported by the first cannula;
wherein the stimulation lead is insertable through the second cannula; and
wherein the second cannula includes at least two sections with a mating wall configuration.

Claim 28 (new): The lead introduction system of Claim 27 wherein the second cannula includes a macroelectrode attached to the second cannula.

Claim 29 (new): The lead introduction system of Claim 27 wherein the second cannula includes at least one handle at the proximal end.

Claim 30 (new): The lead introduction system of Claim 29 wherein the mating wall configuration includes a perforated interface from the proximal end toward the distal end.

Claim 31 (new): The lead introduction system of Claim 30 wherein the at least one handle is pulled up and away from the patient's brain separating the second cannula along the perforated interface.